



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 1603**
Katsushi TOKUNAGA et al. : **Docket No. 2000_1639A**
Serial No. 09/725,752 : **Group Art Unit 1634**
Filed May 22, 2001 : **Examiner Diana Johannsen**

REAGENT FOR DIAGNOSIS OF CROHN'S DISEASE

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action dated January 14, 2003.

The Official Action constitutes a requirement for restriction and election of species.

The Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group III, claims 10-11 and 14.

The Applicant further elect, as the species, a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a FLICE inhibitory protein.

The Applicants, and their undersigned representative, appreciate the Examiner's courtesy in reconsidering the previous restriction requirement.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsushi TOKUNAGA et al.

By: Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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